

Paradice Equity Alpha Plus Fund

ARSN 631 044 678

Annual report

For the year ended 30 June 2023

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This annual report covers Paradice Equity Alpha Plus Fund as an individual entity.

The Responsible Entity of Paradice Equity Alpha Plus Fund is Equity Trustees Limited (ABN 46 004 031 298) (AFSL 240975).

The Responsible Entity's registered office is:

Level 1, 575 Bourke Street
Melbourne, VIC 3000.

Directors' report

The directors of Equity Trustees Limited, the Responsible Entity of Paradice Equity Alpha Plus Fund (the "Fund"), present their report together with the financial statements of the Fund for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Principal activities

The Fund primarily invests in a portfolio of securities that are listed on the Australian and New Zealand stock exchanges (or soon to be listed) - long and short - that are generally chosen from the S&P/ASX 200 Total Return Index. The Fund may also invest in international securities.

The Fund did not have any employees during the year.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the Fund's activities during the year.

The various service providers for the Fund are detailed below:

Service	Provider
Responsible Entity	Equity Trustees Limited
Investment Manager	Paradice Investment Management Pty Ltd
Custodian and Administrator	State Street Australia Limited
Statutory Auditor	KPMG

Directors

The following persons held office as directors of Equity Trustees Limited during or since the end of the year and up to the date of this report:

Philip D Gentry	Chairman
Michael J O'Brien	
Russell W Beasley	
Mary A O'Connor	
David B Warren	(appointed 6 March 2023)

Review and results of operations

During the year, the Fund continued to invest its funds in accordance with the Product Disclosure Statement and the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

The Fund's performance was 18.86% (net of fees) for the year ended 30 June 2023. The Fund's benchmark, S&P/ASX 200 Total Return Index returned 14.78% for the same period.

The Fund's performance is calculated based on the percentage change in the Fund's mid-price over the period (with any distributions paid during the period reinvested). Returns are disclosed after fees and expenses.

The performance of the Fund, as represented by the results of its operations, was as follows:

	Year ended	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
Profit/(loss) for the year (\$'000)	19,040	3
Distributions paid and payable (\$'000)	8,450	9,157
Distributions (cents per unit)	8.57	11.38

Directors' report (continued)

Significant changes in the state of affairs

David B Warren was appointed as a director of Equity Trustees Limited on 6 March 2023.

In the opinion of the directors, there were no other significant changes in the state of affairs of the Fund that occurred during the financial year.

Matters subsequent to the end of the financial year

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2023 that has significantly affected, or may have a significant effect on:

- (i) the operations of the Fund in future financial years; or
- (ii) the results of those operations in future financial years; or
- (iii) the state of affairs of the Fund in future financial years.

Likely developments and expected results of operations

The Fund will continue to be managed in accordance with the investment objectives and guidelines as set out in the Product Disclosure Statement and the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

The results of the Fund's operations will be affected by a number of factors, including the performance of investment markets in which the Fund invests. Investment performance is not guaranteed and future returns may differ from past returns. As investment conditions change over time, past returns should not be used to predict future returns.

Indemnification and insurance of officers

No insurance premiums are paid for out of the assets of the Fund in regards to insurance cover provided to the officers of Equity Trustees Limited. So long as the officers of Equity Trustees Limited act in accordance with the Fund's Constitution and the Law, the officers remain indemnified out of the assets of the Fund against losses incurred while acting on behalf of the Fund.

Indemnification of auditor

The auditor of the Fund is in no way indemnified out of the assets of the Fund.

Fees paid to and interests held in the Fund by the Responsible Entity and its associates

Fees paid to the Responsible Entity and its associates out of Fund property during the year are disclosed in Note 16 to the financial statements.

No fees were paid out of Fund property to the directors of the Responsible Entity during the year.

The number of interests in the Fund held by the Responsible Entity or its associates as at the end of the financial year are disclosed in Note 16 to the financial statements.

Interests in the Fund

The movement in units on issue in the Fund during the year is disclosed in Note 9 to the financial statements.

The value of the Fund's assets and liabilities is disclosed in the statement of financial position and derived using the basis set out in Note 2 to the financial statements.

Environmental regulation

The operations of the Fund are not subject to any particular or significant environmental regulations under Commonwealth, State or Territory law.

Directors' report (continued)

Rounding of amounts to the nearest thousand dollars

Amounts in the Directors' report have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars in accordance with *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191*, unless otherwise indicated.

Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the Auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out on page 5.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors of Equity Trustees Limited through a delegated authority given by Equity Trustees Limited's Board.



Philip D Gentry
Chairman

Melbourne
14 September 2023



Lead Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

To the Directors of Equity Trustees Limited, the Responsible Entity of Paradise Equity Alpha Plus Fund:

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit of Paradise Equity Alpha Plus Fund for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 there have been:

- i. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

KPMG

Andrew Reeves
Partner

Sydney
14 September 2023

Statement of comprehensive income

	Note	Year ended	
		30 June 2023	30 June 2022
		\$'000	\$'000
Investment income			
Interest income from financial assets at amortised cost		397	4
Dividend and distribution income		5,344	4,133
Net foreign exchange gain/(loss)		-	(12)
Net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		16,373	(1,518)
Other income		<u>5</u>	<u>-</u>
Total investment income/(loss)		<u>22,119</u>	<u>2,607</u>
Expenses			
Management fees and costs		1,158	681
Performance fees	16(g)	1,007	1,131
Dividend expense		471	189
Withholding taxes		22	8
Transaction costs		216	440
Other expenses		<u>205</u>	<u>155</u>
Total expenses		<u>3,079</u>	<u>2,604</u>
Profit/(loss) for the year		<u>19,040</u>	<u>3</u>
Other comprehensive income		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total comprehensive income for the year		<u>19,040</u>	<u>3</u>

The above statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of financial position

	Note	As at	
		30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2022 \$'000
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	11	13,300	11,668
Receivables	13	662	660
Due from brokers - receivable for securities sold		-	2,390
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	6	139,541	101,935
Margin accounts		460	304
Total assets		<u>153,963</u>	<u>116,957</u>
Liabilities			
Distributions payable	10	6,168	9,157
Payables	14	105	545
Due to brokers - payable for securities purchased		-	2,821
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	7	23,201	14,940
Total liabilities		<u>29,474</u>	<u>27,463</u>
Net assets attributable to unit holders - equity	9	<u>124,489</u>	<u>89,494</u>

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of changes in equity

	Note	Year ended	
		30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2022 \$'000
Total equity at the beginning of the financial year		89,494	40,235
Comprehensive income for the financial year			
Profit/(loss) for the year		19,040	3
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income		19,040	3
Transactions with unit holders			
Applications	9	29,274	64,111
Redemptions	9	(10,249)	(10,749)
Reinvestment of distributions	9	5,380	5,051
Distributions paid and payable	9	(8,450)	(9,157)
Total transactions with unit holders		15,955	49,256
Total equity at the end of the financial year		124,489	89,494

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of cash flows

	Note	Year ended	
		30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2022 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		146,845	296,786
Payments for purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		(159,250)	(344,036)
Net foreign exchange gain/(loss)		-	(12)
Net movement in margin accounts		(156)	(227)
Interest income received from financial assets at amortised cost		358	-
Dividends and distributions received		4,168	3,448
Other income received		189	-
Management fees and costs paid		(1,142)	(673)
Performance fees paid		(1,451)	(772)
Transactions costs paid		(216)	(440)
Other expenses paid		(205)	(291)
Dividend expense paid on short position securities		(474)	(168)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	12(a)	<u>(11,334)</u>	<u>(46,385)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from applications by unit holders		29,274	64,111
Payments for redemptions by unit holders		(10,249)	(10,749)
Distributions paid to unit holders		(6,059)	(124)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from financing activities		<u>12,966</u>	<u>53,238</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		1,632	6,853
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<u>11,668</u>	<u>4,815</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	11	<u>13,300</u>	<u>11,668</u>
Non-cash operating and financing activities	12(b)	6,378	5,461

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to the financial statements

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1 General information

These financial statements cover Paradice Equity Alpha Plus Fund (the “Fund”) as an individual entity. The Fund is an Australian registered managed investment scheme which was constituted on 11 January 2019 and will terminate in accordance with the provisions of the Fund’s Constitution or by Law.

The Responsible Entity of the Fund is Equity Trustees Limited (ABN 46 004 031 298) (AFSL 240975) (the “Responsible Entity”). The Responsible Entity’s registered office is Level 1, 575 Bourke Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000. The financial statements are presented in the Australian currency unless otherwise noted.

The Fund primarily invests in a portfolio of securities that are listed on the Australian and New Zealand stock exchanges (or soon to be listed) - long and short - that are generally chosen from the S&P/ASX 200 Total Return Index. The Fund may also invest in international securities.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the directors on the date the Directors’ declaration was signed. The directors of the Responsible Entity have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented, unless otherwise stated in the following text.

(a) Basis of preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the *Corporations Act 2001* in Australia. The Fund is a for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The financial statements are prepared on the basis of fair value measurement of assets and liabilities, except where otherwise stated.

The statement of financial position is presented on a liquidity basis. Assets and liabilities are presented in decreasing order of liquidity and do not distinguish between current and non-current. All balances are expected to be recovered or settled within 12 months, except for investments in financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss and net assets attributable to unit holders.

The Fund manages financial assets at fair value through profit or loss based on the economic circumstances at any given point in time, as well as to meet any liquidity requirements. As such, it is expected that a portion of the portfolio will be realised within 12 months, however, an estimate of that amount cannot be determined as at reporting date.

In the case of net assets attributable to unit holders, the units are redeemable on demand at the unit holders’ option. However, holders of these instruments typically retain them for the medium to long term. As such, the amount expected to be settled within 12 months cannot be reliably determined.

(i) Compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

The financial statements of the Fund also comply with IFRS as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

(ii) New and amended standards adopted by the Fund

There are no standards, interpretations or amendments to existing standards that are effective for the first time for the financial year beginning 1 July 2022 that have a material impact on the amounts recognised in the prior periods or will affect the current or future periods.

(iii) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

A number of new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are effective for annual periods beginning after 1 July 2023 and have not been early adopted in preparing these financial statements.

None of these are expected to have a material effect on the financial statements of the Fund.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(b) Financial instruments

(i) Classification

- Financial assets

The Fund classifies its financial assets in the following measurement categories:

- those to be measured at fair value through profit or loss; and
- those to be measured at amortised cost.

The Fund classifies its financial assets based on its business model for managing those financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets.

The Fund's portfolio of financial assets is managed and its performance is evaluated on a fair value basis in accordance with the Fund's documented investment strategy. The Fund's policy is for the Investment Manager to evaluate the information about these financial assets on a fair value basis together with other related financial information.

For equity securities and derivatives, the contractual cash flows of these instruments do not represent solely payments of principal and interest. Consequently, these investments are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

For cash and cash equivalents, receivables, due from brokers and margin accounts, these assets are held in order to collect the contractual cash flows. The contractual terms of these assets give rise, on specified dates, to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding. Consequently, these are measured at amortised cost.

- Financial liabilities

The Fund makes short sales in which a borrowed security is sold in anticipation of a decline in the market value of that security, or it may use short sales for various arbitrage transactions. Short sales are held for trading and are consequently classified as financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss. Derivative contracts that have a negative fair value are presented as liabilities at fair value through profit or loss.

For financial liabilities that are not classified and measured at fair value through profit or loss, these are classified as financial liabilities at amortised cost (distributions payable, management fees and costs payable and due to brokers).

(ii) Recognition and derecognition

The Fund recognises financial assets and financial liabilities on the date it becomes party to the contractual agreement (trade date) and recognises changes in the fair value of the financial assets or financial liabilities from this date.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or the Fund has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligation under the liability is discharged, cancelled or expires. When an existing financial liability is replaced by another from the same lender on substantially different terms, or the terms of an existing liability are substantially modified, such an exchange or modification is treated as the derecognition of the original liability and the recognition of a new liability. The difference in the respective carrying amounts is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

(iii) Measurement

- Financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss

At initial recognition, the Fund measures a financial asset and a financial liability at its fair value. Transaction costs of financial assets and liabilities carried at fair value through profit or loss are expensed in the statement of comprehensive income.

Subsequent to initial recognition, all financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value. Gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of 'financial assets or liabilities at fair value through profit or loss' category are presented in the statement of comprehensive income within 'net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss' in the period in which they arise.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(b) Financial instruments (continued)

(iii) Measurement (continued)

For further details on how the fair value of financial instruments is determined please see Note 5 to the financial statements.

- Financial instruments at amortised cost

For financial assets and financial liabilities at amortised cost, they are initially measured at fair value including directly attributable costs and are subsequently measured using the effective interest rate method less any allowance for expected credit losses.

Cash and cash equivalents, receivables, due from brokers and margin accounts are carried at amortised cost.

(iv) Impairment

At each reporting date, the Fund shall estimate a loss allowance on each of the financial assets carried at amortised cost (cash and cash equivalents, receivables, due from brokers and margin accounts) at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses if the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Fund shall measure the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses. Significant financial difficulties of the counterparty, probability that the counterparty will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default in payments are all considered indicators that the asset is credit impaired. If the credit risk increases to the point that it is considered to be credit impaired, interest income will be calculated based on the net carrying amount adjusted for the loss allowance. A significant increase in credit risk is defined by management as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due. Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit impaired.

The expected credit loss (ECL) approach is based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due in accordance with the contract and all the cash flows that the Fund expects to receive. The shortfall is then discounted at an approximation to the asset's original effective interest rate.

The amount of the impairment loss is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income within other expenses. When a trade receivable for which an impairment allowance had been recognised becomes uncollectible in a subsequent period, it is written off against the allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against other expenses in the statement of comprehensive income.

(v) Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the statement of financial position when the Fund has a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts, and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets and liabilities that have been offset are disclosed in Note 4.

(c) Net assets attributable to unit holders

Units are redeemable at the unit holders' option; however, applications and redemptions may be suspended by the Responsible Entity if it is in the best interests of the unit holders.

The units can be put back to the Fund at any time for cash based on the redemption price, which is equal to a proportionate share of the Fund's net asset value attributable to the unit holders.

The units are carried at the redemption amount that is payable at the reporting date if the holder exercises the right to put the units back to the Fund.

The Fund's units are classified as equity as they satisfy the following criteria under AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation*:

- the puttable financial instrument entitles the holder to a pro-rata share of net assets in the event of the Fund's liquidation;

2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(c) Net assets attributable to unit holders (continued)

- the puttable financial instrument is in the class of instruments that is subordinate to all other classes of instruments and class features are identical;
- the puttable financial instrument does not include any contractual obligations to deliver cash or another financial asset, or to exchange financial instruments with another entity under potentially unfavourable conditions to the Fund, and is not a contract settled in the Fund's own equity instruments; and
- the total expected cash flows attributable to the puttable financial instrument over the life are based substantially on the profit or loss.

(d) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of presentation in the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions and other short term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Payments and receipts relating to the purchase and sale of investment securities are classified as cash flows from operating activities, as trading of these securities represents the Fund's main income generating activity.

(e) Margin accounts

Margin accounts comprise cash held as collateral for derivative transactions. The cash is held by the broker and is only available to meet margin calls. It is not included as a component of cash and cash equivalents.

(f) Investment income

(i) Interest income

Interest income from financial assets at amortised cost is recognised using the effective interest method and includes interest from cash and cash equivalents.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and of allocating the interest income over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts throughout the expected life of the financial instrument, or a shorter period where appropriate, to the net carrying amount of the financial asset. When calculating the effective interest rate, the Fund estimates cash flows considering all contractual terms of the financial instruments (for example, prepayment options) but does not consider future credit losses. The calculation includes all fees paid or received between the parties to the contract that are an integral part of the effective interest rate, including transaction costs and all other premiums or discounts.

(ii) Dividends and distributions

Dividend income is recognised on the ex-dividend date with any related foreign withholding tax recorded as an expense. The Fund currently incurs withholding tax imposed by certain countries on investment income. Such income is recorded gross of withholding tax in the statement of comprehensive income.

Trust distributions are recognised on an entitlement basis.

(g) Expenses

All expenses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income on an accruals basis.

Management fees and costs covers certain ordinary expenses such as management fees, Responsible Entity fees, custodian fees, audit fees, cost of unit holder meetings, special valuation of assets and other operating expenses.

Dividend expenses on short positions in equity securities equal to the dividends due on these securities. Such dividend expense is recognised in profit or loss when the shareholders' right to receive payment is established.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(h) Income tax

Under current legislation, the Fund is not subject to income tax provided it attributes the entirety of its taxable income to its unit holders.

The Fund currently incurs withholding taxes imposed by certain countries on investment income and capital gains. Such income or gains are recorded gross of withholding taxes in the statement of comprehensive income. Withholding taxes are included in the statement of comprehensive income as an expense.

(i) Distributions

The Fund may distribute its distributable income, in accordance with the Fund's Constitution, to unit holders by cash or reinvestment. The distributions are recognised in the statement of changes in equity.

(j) Foreign currency translation

(i) Functional and presentation currency

Balances included in the Fund's financial statements are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which it operates (the "functional currency"). This is the Australian dollar which reflects the currency of the economy in which the Fund competes for funds and is regulated. The Australian dollar is also the Fund's presentation currency.

(ii) Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translations at year end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

The Fund does not isolate that portion of unrealised gains or losses on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss which is due to changes in foreign exchange rates. Such fluctuations are included in the net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss.

(k) Due from/to brokers

Amounts due from/to brokers represent receivables for securities sold and payables for securities purchased that have been contracted for but not yet delivered by the end of the year. The due from brokers balance is held for collection and is recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

(l) Receivables

Receivables may include amounts for interest, dividends and trust distributions. Dividends and trust distributions are accrued when the right to receive payment is established. Where applicable, interest is accrued on a daily basis. Amounts are generally received within 30 days of being recorded as receivables.

(m) Payables

Payables include liabilities and accrued expenses owed by the Fund which are unpaid as at the end of the reporting period.

A separate distribution payable is recognised in the statement of financial position.

Distributions declared effective 30 June in relation to unit holders who have previously elected to reinvest distributions are recognised as reinvested effective 1 July of the following financial year.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(n) Applications and redemptions

Applications received for units in the Fund are recorded net of any entry fees payable prior to the issue of units in the Fund. Redemptions from the Fund are recorded gross of any exit fees payable after the cancellation of units redeemed.

(o) Goods and services tax (GST)

The GST incurred on the costs of various services provided to the Fund by third parties such as management, administration and custodian services where applicable, have been passed on to the Fund. The Fund qualifies for Reduced Input Tax Credits (RITC) at a rate of at least 55%. Hence, fees for these services and any other expenses have been recognised in the statement of comprehensive income net of the amount of GST recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Amounts payable are inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO is included in receivables in the statement of financial position. Cash flows relating to GST are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis.

(p) Use of estimates and judgements

The Fund makes estimates, assumptions and judgements that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities within the current and next financial year. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

For the majority of the Fund's financial instruments, quoted market prices are readily available. However, certain financial instruments, for example over-the-counter derivatives or unquoted securities, are fair valued using valuation techniques. Where valuation techniques (for example, pricing models) are used to determine fair values, they are validated and periodically reviewed by experienced personnel of the Investment Manager.

Models use observable data, to the extent practicable. However, areas such as credit risk (both own and counterparty), volatilities and correlations, require management to make estimates and judgements. Changes in assumptions about these factors could affect the reported fair value of financial instruments.

The Fund estimates that the resultant expected credit loss (ECL) derived from using impairment model, has not materially impacted the Fund. Please see Note 3 for more information on credit risk.

For more information on how fair value is calculated refer to Note 5 to the financial statements.

(q) Rounding of amounts

The Fund is an entity of a kind referred to in *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191* relating to the "rounding off" of amounts in the financial statements. Amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, unless otherwise indicated.

(r) Comparative revisions

Comparative information has been revised where appropriate to enhance comparability. Where necessary, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation in the current year.

3 Financial risk management

The Fund's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including market risk (which incorporates price risk and interest rate risk), credit risk and liquidity risk.

The Fund's overall risk management programme focuses on ensuring compliance with the Fund's Product Disclosure Statement and the investment guidelines of the Fund. It also seeks to maximise the returns derived for the level of risk to which the Fund is exposed and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the Fund's financial performance. The Fund's policy allows it to use derivative financial instruments in managing its financial risks.

All investments present a risk of loss of capital. The maximum loss of capital on long equity securities and unit trusts is limited to the fair value of those positions. The maximum loss of capital on long futures is limited to the notional contract values of those positions. On equities sold short, the maximum loss of capital can be unlimited.

The investments of the Fund, and associated risks, are managed by a specialist Investment Manager, Paradice Investment Management Pty Ltd under an Investment Management Agreement (the "IMA") approved by the Responsible Entity, and containing the investment strategy and guidelines of the Fund, consistent with those stated in the Product Disclosure Statement.

The Fund uses different methods to measure different types of risk to which it is exposed. These methods are explained below.

(a) Market risk

(i) Price risk

The Fund is exposed to price risk on equity securities listed or quoted on recognised securities exchanges. Price risk arises from investments held by the Fund for which prices in the future are uncertain. Where non-monetary financial instruments are denominated in currencies other than the Australian dollar, the price in the future will also fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates which are considered a component of price risk.

Price risk is managed by Paradice Investment Management Pty Ltd, the Fund's Investment Manager. The Investment Manager mitigates this price risk through diversification and careful selection of securities and other financial instruments in accordance with the investment mandate of the Fund.

The Fund's overall market positions are monitored on a regular basis by the Investment Manager. This information and the compliance with the Fund's Product Disclosure Statement are reported to the Investment Manager's compliance manager and other key management personnel.

The table at Note 3(b) summarises the sensitivities of the Fund's assets and liabilities to price risk. The analysis is based on the reasonably possible shift that the investment portfolio in which the Fund invests moves by +/-10% (2022: +/-10%).

(ii) Interest rate risk

The Fund is exposed to cash flow interest rate risk on financial instruments with variable interest rates. Financial instruments with fixed rates expose the Fund to fair value interest rate risk.

The Fund's interest bearing financial instruments expose it to risks associated with the effects of fluctuation in the prevailing market interest rate on its financial positions and cash flows. The impact of interest rate risk on the profit and net assets attributable to unit holders is considered immaterial to the Fund and thus is not included in the sensitivity analysis below.

Interest rate risk is managed by Paradice Investment Management Pty Ltd.

(b) Summarised sensitivity analysis

The following table summarises the sensitivity of the Fund's operating profit and net assets attributable to unit holders to market risks. The reasonably possible movements in the risk variables have been determined based on management's best estimate, having regard to a number of factors, including historical levels of changes in foreign exchange rates, interest rates and the historical correlation of the Fund's investments with the relevant benchmark and market volatility. However, actual movements in the risk variables may be greater or less than anticipated due to a number of factors, including

3 Financial risk management (continued)

(b) Summarised sensitivity analysis (continued)

unusually large market movements resulting from changes in the performance of and/or correlation between the performances of the economies, markets and securities in which the Fund invests. As a result, historic variations in risk variables should not be used to predict future variances in the risk variables.

	Impact on operating profit/net assets attributable to unit holders	
	Price risk	
	+10%	-10%
	\$'000	\$'000
As at 30 June 2023	12,247	(12,247)
As at 30 June 2022	9,120	(9,120)

The sensitivity factor for 30 June 2022 was +/-10% for price risk.

(c) Credit risk

The Fund is exposed to credit risk, which is the risk that a counterparty will be unable to pay its obligations in full when they fall due, causing a financial loss to the Fund.

The Fund does not have a significant concentration of credit risk that arises from an exposure to a single counterparty or group of counterparties having similar characteristics. The main concentration of credit risk, to which the Fund is exposed, arises from cash and cash equivalents and amounts due from brokers balances. None of these assets are impaired nor past their due date. The maximum exposure to credit risk is the carrying of these balances at the reporting date.

The Fund determines credit risk and measures expected credit losses for financial assets measured at amortised cost using probability of default, exposure at default and loss given default. Management considers both historical analysis and forward looking information in determining any expected credit loss. At 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2022, all receivables, amounts due from brokers, cash and short-term deposits are held with counterparties with a credit rating of AA/Aa or higher and are either callable on demand or due to be settled within 1 week. Management considers the probability of default to be close to zero as these instruments have a low risk of default and the counterparties have a strong capacity to meet their contractual obligations in the near term. As a result, no loss allowance has been recognised based on 12-month expected credit losses as any such impairment would be wholly insignificant to the Fund.

(d) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund may not be able to generate sufficient cash resources to settle its obligations in full as they fall due or can only do so on terms that are materially disadvantageous.

Exposure to liquidity risk for the Fund may arise from the requirement to meet daily unit holder redemption requests, margin calls on derivative transactions, or to fund foreign exchange related cash flow requirements.

Liquidity risk is managed by Investment Manager.

In order to manage the Fund's overall liquidity, the Responsible Entity has the discretion to reject an application for units and to defer or adjust redemption of units if the exercise of such discretion is in the best interests of unit holders. The Responsible Entity did not reject or withhold any redemptions during 2023 and 2022.

(i) Maturities of non-derivative financial liabilities

All non-derivative financial liabilities of the Fund in the current period have maturities of less than 1 month.

3 Financial risk management (continued)

(d) Liquidity risk (continued)

(ii) Maturities of derivative financial instruments

The table below analyses the Fund's derivative financial instruments based on their contractual maturity. The Fund may, at its discretion, settle financial instruments prior to their original contractual settlement date, in accordance with its investment strategy, where permitted by the terms and conditions of the relevant instruments.

	Less than 1 month \$'000	1-6 months \$'000	6-12 months \$'000	Over 12 months \$'000	Total \$'000
As at 30 June 2023					
Derivatives					
Futures contracts	-	69	-	-	69
Total derivatives	-	69	-	-	69
	Less than 1 month \$'000	1-6 months \$'000	6-12 months \$'000	Over 12 months \$'000	Total \$'000
As at 30 June 2022					
Derivatives					
Futures contracts	-	(3)	-	-	(3)
Total derivatives	-	(3)	-	-	(3)

4 Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the statement of financial position when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. The gross and net positions of financial assets and liabilities that have been offset in the statement of financial position are disclosed in the first three columns of the tables below.

	Effects of offsetting on the statement of financial position			Related amounts not offset		
	Gross amounts of financial instruments \$'000	Gross amounts set off in the statement of financial position \$'000	Net amount of financial instruments presented in the statement of financial position \$'000	Amounts subject to master netting arrangements \$'000	Collateral received/ pledged \$'000	Net amount \$'000
As at 30 June 2023						
Financial assets						
Derivative financial instruments (a)	69	-	69	-	-	69
Total	69	-	69	-	-	69
As at 30 June 2022						
Financial liabilities						
Derivative financial instruments (a)	3	-	3	-	(3)	-
Total	3	-	3	-	(3)	-

4 Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities (continued)

(a) Master netting arrangement – not currently enforceable

Agreements with derivative counterparties are based on the International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA) Master Agreement. Under the terms of these arrangements, only when certain credit events occur (such as default), the net position owing/receivable to a single counterparty in the same currency will be taken as owing and all the relevant arrangements terminated. As the Fund does not presently have a legally enforceable right of set-off, these amounts have not been offset in the statement of financial position but have been presented separately in the above table.

5 Fair value measurement

The Fund measures and recognises financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss on a recurring basis.

- Financial assets/liabilities at fair value through profit or loss (see Note 6 and Note 7)
- Derivative financial instruments (see Note 8)

The Fund has no assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis in the current reporting period.

AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* requires disclosure of fair value measurements by level of the following fair value measurement hierarchy:

- Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1);
- Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly (level 2); and
- Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs) (level 3).

The Fund values its investments in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 2 to the financial statements.

(a) Fair value in an active market (level 1)

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets (such as equity securities and unit trusts) are based on their quoted market prices at the end of the reporting period without any deduction for estimated future selling costs.

For the majority of its investments, the Fund relies on information provided by independent pricing services for the valuation of its investments.

The quoted market price used for financial assets and financial liabilities held by the Fund is the last traded price. When the Fund holds derivatives with offsetting market risks, it uses mid-market prices as a basis for establishing fair values for the offsetting risk positions and applies this bid or asking price to the net open position, as appropriate.

A financial instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service, or regulatory agency, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.

An active market is a market in which transactions for the asset or liability take place with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

(b) Fair value in an inactive or unquoted market (level 2)

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. These include the use of recent arm's length market transactions, reference to the current fair value of a substantially similar other instrument, discounted cash flow techniques, option pricing models or any other valuation technique that provides a reliable estimate of prices obtained in actual market transactions.

Where discounted cash flow techniques are used, estimated future cash flows are based on management's best estimates and the discount rate used is a market rate at the end of the reporting period applicable for an instrument with similar terms and conditions.

5 Fair value measurement (continued)

(b) Fair value in an inactive or unquoted market (level 2) (continued)

For other pricing models, inputs are based on market data at the end of the reporting period. Fair values for unquoted equity investments are estimated, if possible, using applicable price/earnings ratios for similar listed companies adjusted to reflect the specific circumstances of the issuer.

Some of the inputs to these models may not be market observable and are therefore estimated based on assumptions. The output of a model is always an estimate or approximation of a value that cannot be determined with certainty, and valuation techniques employed may not fully reflect all factors relevant to the positions the Fund holds. Valuations are therefore adjusted, where appropriate, to allow for additional factors including liquidity risk and counterparty risk.

(c) Fair value in an inactive or unquoted market (level 3)

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities that are not based on observable market data are classified as level 3. Examples of unobservable inputs include implied unit prices, capitalization rates, earnings multiples and recent comparable market data. In general, cost price or a nil price will be applied if there is no market price available by a designated vendor source or if the security cannot be priced due to no market identifier.

(d) Recognised fair value measurements

The table below presents the Fund's financial assets and liabilities measured and recognised at fair value as at 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2022.

As at 30 June 2023	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial assets				
Futures contracts	69	-	-	69
Equity securities	134,124	-	-	134,124
Unit trusts	5,348	-	-	5,348
Total financial assets	139,541	-	-	139,541
Financial liabilities				
Equity securities	22,375	-	-	22,375
Unit trusts	826	-	-	826
Total financial liabilities	23,201	-	-	23,201
As at 30 June 2022	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial assets				
Equity securities	99,648	-	-	99,648
Unit trusts	2,287	-	-	2,287
Total financial assets	101,935	-	-	101,935
Financial liabilities				
Futures contracts	3	-	-	3
Equity securities	14,165	154	618	14,937
Total financial liabilities	14,168	154	618	14,940

5 Fair value measurement (continued)

(e) Transfer between levels

Management's policy is to recognise transfers into and transfers out of fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting period.

There were no transfers between levels in the fair value hierarchy at the end of the reporting period.

(f) Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

The following table presents the movement in level 3 instruments for the year ended 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2022 by class of financial instrument.

	Equity securities \$'000
Opening balance - 1 July 2021	(11)
Purchases	2,137
Sales	(2,893)
Gains/(losses) recognised in the statement of comprehensive income	149
Closing balance - 30 June 2022*	<u>(618)</u>
Purchases	165
Sales	(10)
Gains/(losses) recognised in the statement of comprehensive income	463
Closing balance - 30 June 2023*	<u>-</u>

*Includes unrealised gains or (losses) recognised in profit or loss attributable to balances held at the end of the reporting period

(g) Financial instruments not carried at fair value

The carrying values of cash and cash equivalents, receivables and payables approximate their fair values due to their short-term nature.

6 Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

	As at	
	30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2022 \$'000
Derivatives (Note 8)	69	-
Equity securities	134,124	99,648
Unit trusts	<u>5,348</u>	<u>2,287</u>
Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	<u>139,541</u>	<u>101,935</u>

An overview of the risk exposures and fair value measurements relating to financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is included in Note 3 and Note 5 to the financial statements.

7 Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss

	As at	
	30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2022 \$'000
Derivatives (Note 8)	-	3
Equity securities	22,375	14,937
Unit trusts	826	-
Total financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	23,201	14,940

An overview of the risk exposures and fair value measurements relating to financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss is included in Note 3 and Note 5 to the financial statements.

8 Derivative financial instruments

In the normal course of business, the Fund enters into transactions in various derivative financial instruments which have certain risks. A derivative is a financial instrument or other contract which is settled at a future date and whose value changes in response to the change in a specified interest rate, financial instrument price, commodity price, foreign exchange rate, index of prices or rates, credit rating or credit index or other variable.

Derivative financial instruments require no initial net investment or an initial net investment that is smaller than would be required for other types of contracts that would be expected to have a similar response to changes in market factors.

Derivative transactions include many different instruments such as forwards, futures and options. Derivatives are considered to be part of the investment process and the use of derivatives is an essential part of the Fund's portfolio management. Derivatives are not managed in isolation. Consequently, the use of derivatives is multifaceted and includes:

- hedging to protect an asset or liability of the Fund against a fluctuation in market values, foreign exchange risk or to reduce volatility;
- a substitution for trading of physical securities; and
- adjusting asset exposures within the parameters set in the investment strategy and adjusting the duration of fixed interest portfolios or the weighted average maturity of cash portfolios.

While derivatives are used for trading purposes, they are not used to gear (leverage) a portfolio. Gearing a portfolio would occur if the level of exposure to the markets exceeds the underlying value of the Fund.

The Fund holds the following derivatives:

Futures

Futures are contractual obligations to buy or sell financial instruments on a future date at a specified price established in an organised market. The futures contracts are collateralised by cash or marketable securities. Changes in futures contracts' values are usually settled net daily with the exchange. Interest rate futures are contractual obligations to receive or pay a net amount based on changes in interest rates at a future date at a specified price, established in an organised financial market.

The Fund's derivative financial instruments measured at fair value at year end are detailed below:

As at 30 June 2023

	Contractual/ notional \$'000	Assets \$'000	Liabilities \$'000
Futures contracts	6,197	69	-
Total derivatives	6,197	69	-

8 Derivative financial instruments (continued)

As at 30 June 2022

	Contractual/ notional \$'000	Assets \$'000	Liabilities \$'000
Futures contracts	4,203	-	3
Total derivatives	4,203	-	3

Information about the Fund's exposure to credit risk, interest rate risk and about the methods and assumptions used in determining fair values is provided in Note 3 and Note 5 to the financial statements. The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period is the carrying amount of each class of derivative financial instruments disclosed above.

9 Net assets attributable to unit holders - equity

Under AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation*, puttable financial instruments are classified as equity where certain criteria are met. The Fund shall classify a financial instrument as an equity instrument from the date when the instrument has all the features and meets the conditions. The Fund's units are classified as equity as they meet the definition of a financial instrument to be classified as equity.

Movements in the number of units and net assets attributable to unit holders during the year were as follows:

	Year ended			
	30 June 2023 Units '000	30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2022 Units '000	30 June 2022 \$'000
Opening balance	80,443	89,494	33,717	40,235
Applications	23,782	29,274	50,689	64,111
Redemptions	(8,214)	(10,249)	(8,195)	(10,749)
Reinvestment of distributions	4,729	5,380	4,232	5,051
Distributions paid and payable	-	(8,450)	-	(9,157)
Profit/(loss) for the year	-	19,040	-	3
Closing balance	100,740	124,489	80,443	89,494

As stipulated within the Fund's Constitution, each unit represents a right to an individual share in the Fund and does not extend to a right in the underlying assets of the Fund.

There are no separate classes of units and each unit has the same rights attaching to it as all other units of the Fund.

Units are redeemed on demand at the unit holders' option. However, holders of these instruments typically retain them for the medium to long term. As such, the amount expected to be settled within twelve months after the end of the reporting period cannot be reliably determined.

Capital risk management

The Fund considers its net assets attributable to unit holders as capital. The amount of net assets attributable to unit holders can change significantly on a daily basis as the Fund is subject to daily applications and redemptions at the discretion of unit holders.

Daily applications and redemptions are reviewed relative to the liquidity of the Fund's underlying assets on a daily basis by the Responsible Entity. Under the terms of the Fund's Constitution, the Responsible Entity has the discretion to reject an application for units and to defer or adjust redemption of units if the exercise of such discretion is in the best interests of unit holders.

10 Distributions to unit holders

The distributions declared during the year were as follows:

	Year ended			
	30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 CPU	30 June 2022 \$'000	30 June 2022 CPU
Distributions				
December	2,282	2.45	-	-
June (payable)	<u>6,168</u>	<u>6.12</u>	9,157	11.38
Total distributions	<u>8,450</u>	<u>8.57</u>	<u>9,157</u>	<u>11.38</u>

11 Cash and cash equivalents

	As at	
	30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2022 \$'000
Cash at bank	<u>13,300</u>	11,668
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>13,300</u>	<u>11,668</u>

12 Reconciliation of profit/(loss) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	Year ended	
	30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2022 \$'000
(a) Reconciliation of profit/(loss) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities		
Profit/(loss) for the year	19,040	3
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	146,845	296,786
Payments for purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	(159,250)	(344,036)
Net (gains)/losses on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	(16,373)	1,518
Dividend and distribution income reinvested	(998)	(410)
Net movement in margin accounts	(156)	(227)
Net change in receivables	(2)	(407)
Net change in payables	(440)	388
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	<u>(11,334)</u>	<u>(46,385)</u>
(b) Non-cash operating and financing activities		
The following distribution payments to unit holders were satisfied by the issue of units under the distribution reinvestment plan	5,380	5,051
The following purchases of investments were satisfied by the participation in dividend and distribution reinvestment plans	998	410
Total non-cash operating and financing activities	<u>6,378</u>	<u>5,461</u>

13 Receivables

	As at	
	30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2022 \$'000
Interest receivable	43	4
Dividends and distributions receivable	592	445
GST receivable	27	211
Total receivables	662	660

14 Payables

	As at	
	30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2022 \$'000
Management fees and costs payable	96	80
Performance fees payable	-	444
Dividend payable	9	21
Total payables	105	545

15 Remuneration of auditors

During the year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by the auditors of the Fund:

	Year ended	
	30 June 2023 \$	30 June 2022 \$
KPMG		
<i>Audit and other assurance services</i>		
Audit of financial statements	10,815	10,300
Total auditor remuneration and other assurance services	10,815	10,300
<i>Taxation services</i>		
Tax compliance services	10,236	8,434
Total remuneration for taxation services	10,236	8,434
Total remuneration of KPMG	21,051	18,734
PricewaterhouseCoopers		
<i>Audit and other assurance services</i>		
Audit of compliance plan	2,346	2,342
Total auditor remuneration and other assurance services	2,346	2,342
Total remuneration of PricewaterhouseCoopers	2,346	2,342

The auditors' remuneration is borne by the Fund. Fees are stated exclusive of GST.

16 Related party transactions

The Responsible Entity of Paradice Equity Alpha Plus Fund is Equity Trustees Limited (ABN 46 004 031 298) (AFSL 240975). Accordingly, transactions with entities related to Equity Trustees Limited are disclosed below.

16 Related party transactions (continued)

The Responsible Entity has contracted services to Paradice Investment Management Pty Ltd to act as Investment Manager for the Fund and State Street Australia Limited to act as Custodian and Administrator for the Fund. The contracts are on normal commercial terms and conditions.

(a) Key management personnel

(i) Directors

Key management personnel include persons who were directors of Equity Trustees Limited at any time during or since the end of the financial year and up to the date of this report.

Philip D Gentry	Chairman
Michael J O'Brien	
Russell W Beasley	
Mary A O'Connor	
David B Warren	(appointed 6 March 2023)

(ii) Responsible Entity

Other than fees paid to the Responsible Entity, there were no other transactions.

(iii) Other key management personnel

There were no other key management personnel with responsibility for planning, directing and controlling activities of the Fund, directly or indirectly during the financial year.

(b) Transactions with key management personnel

There were no transactions with key management personnel during the reporting period.

(c) Key management personnel unit holdings

Key management personnel did not hold units in the Fund as at 30 June 2023 (30 June 2022: nil).

(d) Key management personnel compensation

Key management personnel are paid by EQT Services Pty Ltd. Payments made from the Fund to Equity Trustees Limited do not include any amounts directly attributable to the compensation of key management personnel.

(e) Key management personnel loans

The Fund has not made, guaranteed or secured, directly or indirectly, any loans to key management personnel or their personally related entities at any time during the reporting period.

(f) Other transactions within the Fund

Apart from those details disclosed in this note, no key management personnel have entered into a material contract with the Fund during the financial year and there were no material contracts involving management personnel's interests existing at year end.

16 Related party transactions (continued)

(g) Responsible Entity fees, Investment Manager's fees and other transactions

Under the terms of the Fund's Constitution and Product Disclosure Statement for the Fund, the Responsible Entity and the Investment Manager are entitled to receive fees.

The Investment Manager is also entitled to a performance fee.

The transactions during the year and amounts payable as at year end between the Fund, the Responsible Entity and the Investment Manager were as follows:

	Year ended	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Management fees for the year	1,025,856	590,220
Performance fees for the year	1,006,786	1,130,677
Responsible Entity fees for the year	49,501	28,514
Management fees payable at year end	91,887	74,448
Performance fees payable at year end	-	443,841
Responsible Entity fees payable at year end	4,395	5,355

For information on how management and performance fees are calculated please refer to the Fund's Product Disclosure Statement.

(h) Related party unit holdings

Parties related to the Fund (including Equity Trustees Limited, its related parties and other schemes managed by Equity Trustees Limited and the Investment Manager) held no units in the Fund as at 30 June 2023 (30 June 2022: nil).

(i) Investments

The Fund did not hold any investments in Equity Trustees Limited or its related parties during the year (30 June 2022: nil).

17 Events occurring after the reporting period

No significant events have occurred since the end of the year which would impact on the financial position of the Fund as disclosed in the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023 or on the results and cash flows of the Fund for the year ended on that date.

18 Contingent assets and liabilities and commitments

There were no outstanding contingent assets, liabilities or commitments as at 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2022.

Directors' declaration

In the opinion of the directors of the Responsible Entity:

- (a) The financial statements and notes set out on pages 6 to 28 for the Paradice Equity Alpha Plus Fund are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) complying with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
 - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date.
- (b) There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and
- (c) Note 2(a) confirms that the financial statements also comply with the International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors of Equity Trustees Limited through a delegated authority given by Equity Trustees Limited's Board.



Philip D Gentry
Chairman

Melbourne
14 September 2023



Independent Auditor's Report

To the unitholders of Paradice Equity Alpha Plus Fund

Opinion

We have audited the **Financial Report** of Paradice Equity Alpha Plus Fund (the Fund).

In our opinion, the accompanying **Financial Report** of Paradice Equity Alpha Plus Fund is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including

- giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 30 June 2023, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
- complying with *Australian Accounting Standards* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

The **Financial Report** comprises the:

- Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023
- Statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended
- Statement of changes in equity, and Statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- Notes including a summary of significant accounting policies
- Directors' Declaration made by the Directors of Equity Trustees Limited (the Responsible Entity).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with *Australian Auditing Standards*. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report* section of our report.

We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and the relevant ethical requirements of the *Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the Financial Report in Australia. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Other Information

Other Information is financial and non-financial information in Paradice Equity Alpha Plus Fund's annual reporting which is provided in addition to the Financial Report and the Auditor's Report. The Directors of Equity Trustees Limited are responsible for the Other Information.

Our opinion on the Financial Report does not cover the Other Information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.



In connection with our audit of the Financial Report, our responsibility is to read the Other Information. In doing so, we consider whether the Other Information is materially inconsistent with the Financial Report or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

We are required to report if we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this Other Information, and based on the work we have performed on the Other Information that we obtained prior to the date of this Auditor's Report we have nothing to report.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report

The Directors of Equity Trustees Limited are responsible for:

- preparing the Financial Report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with *Australian Accounting Standards* and the *Corporations Act 2001*;
- implementing necessary internal control to enable the preparation of a Financial Report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern and whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate. This includes disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report

Our objective is:

- to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Financial Report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with *Australian Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. They are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this Financial Report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

KPMG

Andrew Reeves
Partner

Sydney
14 September 2023